

Dear Committee Members,

I am vehemently opposed to any committees being formed to study and dole out taxpayer or other funds for gun violence. Relatively speaking, it is a very small problem, and any such law would certainly end in legal gun owners' rights being diminished.

I am also vehemently opposed to calling gun violence a public health crisis. There are at least 11 causes of death that are many multiples of firearm deaths in CT, according to the CDC, see <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/states/connecticut/connecticut.htm>. It is clearly not a public health crisis. Approximately .005% of Connecticut's population dies from firearms each year. Certainly some of those are justified shootings. The total is statistically irrelevant for all intents and purposes. I can't imagine what would come from making gun violence a public health crisis, but I can assume that it will affect legal gun owners negatively.

Finally, it is my understanding that the first charge to be dropped in the state of Connecticut is illegal firearm possession. It seems to me if we started enforcing the laws that are already on our books, we probably wouldn't need a whole lot of new ones.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jennifer Sylvia  
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